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Wing proves ready to respond during exercise

By Capt. Warren Comer
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The first Operational Readiness Exercise since the 374th Airlift Wing held its Operational Readiness Inspection in March was Oct. 2 through 6 in what was the rainiest exercise in recent history.

Airmen around the base were tested in their ability to deploy forces, receive support from other bases, evacuate noncombatants and practice survival tactics during simulated mortar and chemical agent attacks.

“This exercise gave me full confidence that the 374th Airlift Wing is mission ready. Our Airmen were enthusiastic and focused. We reinforced several deployment procedures and validated training accomplished by our newly assigned teammates,” said Col. Paul Montgomery, 374th AW vice commander. “We exercised during our heaviest Air Expeditionary Force cycle. There are more than 400 wing Airmen currently deployed and we moved mountains.”

The mission carried on as the Kanto Plain region was drenched with rain. On Oct. 3, Yokota Air Base received pouring to steady bouts of rain that didn’t stop until the exercise was over on the night of Oct. 6. The rain added a new element to the exercise and further tested Airmen’s ability to respond to outside incidents,

especially those on the flightline.

During the first phase of an ORE, Airmen are tested on their ability to deploy and receive forces. This is the most difficult portion of the exercise because Airmen need to maintain awareness of details to ensure that their people and equipment are ready to deploy.

According to Col. William Davidson, 374th Inspector General, the wing did a good job during Phase I operations.

“The wing responded well during the deployment and reception phase of the exercise. The ‘mobility machine’ trained hard over the last few months and implemented improved processes for personnel and cargo movement,” said Colonel Davidson. “Despite the turnover of personnel during the summer, the deployment and reception phase were noticeably better, although we are always seeking improvements that allow us to work smarter, not harder.”

Colonel Davidson also said that wing members need to know that exercises aren’t just about getting ready for inspections.

“It is important to remember that the wing is training for contingency and combat operations, not to pass an inspection. For more than 15 years, the Air Force has become a smaller, leaner, more capable force,” said Colonel Davidson. “The exercises here

at Yokota are designed to validate our capabilities and highlight any areas where additional training or resources are needed.”

Airmen also got the opportunity to don their Individual Protective Equipment, or IPE, that includes items like the Battle Dress Overgarment used to protect the wearer against nuclear, biological or chemical at-

tacks. For many, this was an opportunity to show the newest Airmen to Samurai Country what Yokota readiness is all about.

“Great teamwork, mission focus across the wing and superior noncommissioned officer leadership carried the day,” said Colonel Montgomery. “I’m really proud of this team I serve with.”



photo by Tech. Sgt. Corey Clements

Staff Sgt. Thomas Ferguson helps Airman First Class Ian McCain, both from the 374th Communications Squadron, take a drink from his canteen while in MOPP 4 gear.

Priceless



photo by Master Sgt. Dominique Brown

Gene Russell, a child development program assistant, reads to Jordan Holmes, left, and Lindsay Dolan, right, at the Kibo Child Development Center on the east side. The CDC’s after school programs providing child care for military and civilian families are essential to the completion of the mission.

No heat, no cool season begins

By Capt. Ben Alumbaugh
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Much like leaves and rainfall, temperatures are also starting to drop, letting people know fall has arrived.

Members of the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron are already preparing the base for winter heating.

Some of the base heating and cooling systems share the same circuit requiring civil engineers to deactivate the cooling systems before turning on the heat. The process usually takes about two to three weeks and is known as the “No Heat, No Cool” season.

During the initial period when the air is turned off, this allows the civil engineers the opportunity to complete heating preparation by performing semi-annual tests on the circulating pumps and check for any leaks in the pipes throughout the base.

“We need time to thoroughly test the systems before turning on the heating to increase system reliability and minimize any potential breakdowns due to some older piping on base,” said Master Sgt. Randy Stoker, 374th CES mechanical section chief.

“Having the air turned off helps to

identify any potential issues with the heating systems before they turn into major problems. People often ask why we can’t make the switch more quickly,” he said.

“A few years ago, we tried to do the switch in one day and many of the heating systems failed throughout base.

Due to the potential for temperatures to cool down at night, residents are advised to keep windows closed, dress warmly and put extra bedding out to keep comfortable.

“People should be aware that the heating systems will not be turned on at all of the facilities simultaneously,” the sergeant said. “The activation will take time, so some facilities will have their heat turned on earlier than others as the shop teams work their way throughout the entire base.”

During the switch from air conditioning to heating, residents are asked to be patient.

“We know that some problems will come up as the heating comes on, but we have the best technicians on the job if any problems should occur so that the transition should run smoothly,” said Sergeant Stoker.

269 Japanese Yokota employees recognized

The government of Japan recognized 338 Japanese governmental employees for their years of dedicated service Thursday at the Forest Inn Hotel in Akishima City.

The Japanese National Length of Service Award Ceremony, held annually in October, recognizes all employees with anywhere from 10 to 40 years in government service.

Approximately 269 of these employees work at Yokota Air Base.

Congratulations to the following employees:

Mr. Masao Abe
Mr. Isamu Agawa
Mr. Kiyoshi Aikawa
Mr. Hiroshi Aiko
Ms. Noriko Akiba
Ms. Kimiko Amino
Mr. Takeshi Aoki
Mr. Teruhiko Aoki
Mr. Takeshi Aoyagi
Mr. Katsumi Aoyama
Ms. Tomoko Arai
Mr. Makoto Arai
Mr. Toshio Ariga
Ms. Michiko Baba
Mr. Satoshi Domae
Mr. Kazuhito Ebina
Mr. Kazuhiro Ejiri
Mr. Daisuke Endo
Mr. Takashi Enomoto
Mr. Yasuaki Fujikawa
Mr. Mitsuaki Fujimoto
Mr. Yasuichi Fujino
Mr. Masanobu Fujita
Mr. Satoshi Fukuchi
Mr. Kazuo Fukuda
Mr. Ryuichi Funatsu
Mr. Kenji Fuwa
Mr. Shoji Gytoku
Mr. Kazunori Hagiuda
Ms. Keiko Hamasaki
Mr. Tsukasa Hara
Mr. Minoru Harada
Mr. Takeshi Hashimoto
Mr. Hajime Hashimoto
Mr. Masato Hashimoto
Mr. Kosuke Hatakeyama
Ms. Yuka Hattori
Mr. Shunkichi Hiraide
Mr. Yutaka Hiramoto

Mr. Shinya Hirano
Mr. Keisuke Hirao
Ms. Mio Hiratsuka
Mr. Masami Hiruma
Mr. Eiji Honda
Mr. Salami Ibrahim
Ms. Yasuyo Ichikawa
Mr. Uito Ichikawa
Ms. Yoko Iida
Mr. Shigeo Iizuka
Mr. Nobuyoshi Ikeda
Mr. Shinichi Imai
Mr. Hiroshi Imai
Mr. Yoshitaka Imura
Ms. Aki Inoue
Mr. Kazunori Inoue
Mr. Sueo Inoue
Ms. Masayo Inoue
Mr. Tadashi Ishii
Mr. Yoshiyuki Ishii
Mr. Katsutoshi Ishikawa
Mr. Masanobu Ishikawa
Ms. Yuko Itami
Mr. Hiroshi Ito
Mr. Naoyuki Ito
Mr. Susumu Iwasaki
Mr. Isao Iwashina
Mr. Kenichi Iwata
Ms. Takako Izumida
Mr. Kazumi Kadowaki
Ms. Yoshiko Kajiwarra
Mr. Koji Kakuta
Mr. Sakae Kamijo
Mr. Masahiro Kaneko
Mr. Kazuhiro Kanesaka
Ms. Junko Kanetaka
Mr. Hisanobu Kano
Ms. Fumiko Kano
Mr. Yoshio Kano
Mr. Tatsuo Kasami
Mr. Hiroaki Kato
Mr. Minoru Katsumata
Ms. Takayo Kawai
Mr. Misao Kawano
Mr. Hideya Kawase
Mr. Noriyuki Kawashima
Mr. Takahiro Kaya
Mr. Takeru Kikuchi
Mr. Masanori Kimura
Ms. Reiko Kimura
Mr. Tomoya Kishida
Mr. Hisao Kitada
Mr. Yuji Kitada
Mr. Hitoshi Kobayakawa
Mr. Koji Kobayashi
Mr. Mitsuo Kobayashi
Ms. Keiko Kobayashi

Ms. Keiko Koike
Mr. Shigeharu Kokubun
Mr. Daisuke Komazaki
Mr. Manabu Komine
Ms. Naoko Konda
Mr. Toshiyuki Koyama
Mr. Kazunori Koyanagi
Mr. Norihito Kudo
Mr. Toshitsugu Kumagaya
Ms. Yoshimi Kunugi
Mr. Keisuke Kuroda
Mr. Masafumi Kurosawa
Ms. Miyuki Kusano
Ms. Yuki Kuwatani
Ms. Tomoko Maeno
Mr. Takashi Makishima
Mr. Shinichi Maruyama
Mr. Shoji Masuda
Mr. Toshihiro Matsui
Ms. Manami Matsuzaki
Mr. Toshio Mayama
Mr. Toshio Meguro
Mr. Toshiaki Mikami
Mr. Toshiaki Miyamoto
Mr. Toshihiko Miyamoto
Mr. Yo Miyamoto
Mr. Hideki Miyaoka
Mr. Yuzo Miyata
Mr. Hideaki Miyazawa
Ms. Toshiko Momosaki
Mr. Hitoshi Morikawa
Ms. Nao Morita
Mr. Masatomi Morita
Mr. Yoshiyuki Morita
Mr. Hiroyuki Motohashi
Mr. Tomokazu Mukaitoge
Mr. Akihito Mukawa
Ms. Junko Munakata
Ms. Norie Muramatsu
Mr. Hiromi Murano
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Mr. Hiroyuki Nakazawa
Mr. Hisashi Nakui
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Mr. Yosuke Nemoto

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Mr. Ryoichi Ozawa
Mr. Mitsuyuki Saeki
Mr. Haruhisa Saigusa
Mr. Isao Sakagami
Mr. Hisayuki Sakamoto
Mr. Takashi Sakamoto
Mr. Nobuo Sakamoto
Mr. Tsubura Sakano
Ms. Kaoru Sakauchi
Mr. Toshimitsu Sakurai
Ms. Atsuko Sato
Mr. Tadaaki Sato
Mr. Masaki Sato
Mr. Mamoru Sato
Mr. Yoshitake Sato
Ms. Tsueko Sekine
Mr. Mitsuaki Sekiya
Ms. Rie Sekiya
Mr. Akio Sekiya
Mr. Moritoshi Shimada
Mr. Richard Shimosato
Mr. Masanori Shiogai
Mr. Hatsuo Shiono
Mr. Yoshiyuki Sugai
Ms. Izumi Sugimoto
Mr. Kiyotaka Suzuki
Mr. Hirotada Suzuki
Mr. Hiroto Suzuki
Mr. Takahiro Suzuki
Mr. Hideto Suzuki
Mr. Masahiko Suzuki
Mr. Osamu Taguchi
Mr. Jun Taguchi
Ms. Kumi Tajika
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Mr. Manabu Takase
Mr. Narumi Takeda
Mr. Yuji Takeda

Ms. Hiroko Takei
Mr. Masahiro Takei
Ms. Mayumi Tamura
Mr. Hidekatsu Tanaka
Mr. Yoshiharu Tanaka
Mr. Tomohiro Tashiro
Mr. Masao Tashiro
Mr. Katsutoshi Tashiro
Ms. Setsuko Tatsuno
Mr. Eiji Togashi
Mr. Yoshiyuki Tsuchiya
Mr. Hirokazu Tsujimura
Mr. Masao Tsukamoto
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Ms. Haruyo Uchida
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Mr. Kazuhito Urano
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Mr. Kengo Urao
Mr. Shigeru Utsugi
Ms. Yoko Vanoss
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Mr. Ryutaro Wada
Mr. Naoki Wada
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Mr. Masatoshi Yoshida
Ms. Michiko Yoshikawa
Ms. Kiyomi Yoshioka
Mr. Toshiharu Yoshioka
Ms. Kiyoko Yoshizumi

AD

Play Group renovated

By Staff Sgt. Ruth Curfman
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The Airman and Family Readiness Center Play Group reopened Tuesday after being renovated by community volunteers. The building was closed temporarily in order to upgrade the facilities and the items inside.

"The renovation of the Play Group was implemented after it was determined that the facility was no longer as safe as we require it to be," said Shelia Keeton, AFRC community readiness consultant. "We decided to make some improvements to enhance the facility and to make it an even better program for children and parents to enjoy."

Some of these improvements include fresh paint, new books, CDs, DVDs, television sets and mats.

"The Play Group benefits the Yokota community by providing a place for families with children, in the established age groups, to come together and bond with other children their age and for parents to build a sense of belonging with the community," said Ms. Keeton.

The age groups range from birth to 5 years old and play groups are offered Monday through Friday in tower 2080. There are four separate age groups which meet three times a week for 60 to 90 minutes depending on planned events for that group.

Additionally, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays there is a session open to children of



photo by Melissa Bauman

Parents and children enjoy the improvements at the Play Group reopening Tuesday.

all ages from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Also, one Saturday per month is reserved for parents who would like to be involved but are unable to attend during the week.

"However, parents need to realize that this is a 100 percent interactive class. This pro-

gram was designed to enhance social skills of children and parents. The individual groups help to foster a sense of family among participants," she said.

For more information regarding this program, call 225-8725 or stop by the AFRC.

Decrease in COLA rates for Japan U.S. military installations

By Capt. Ben Alumbaugh
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Members of Yokota will see a reduction in their Cost Of Living Allowance starting Oct. 16 and another reduction Nov. 1.

Yokota will see these changes along with Misawa, Okinawa, Yokosuka, Camp Zama, Atsugi, Iwakuni, Kure, and Sasebo.

According to Department of Defense Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee, Yokota will see a reduction of four points overall.

COLA is an allowance paid to service members stationed in high-cost areas so members can purchase about the same goods and services overseas as in the United States.

"The major factor in this is the Living Pattern Survey,

which is done every three years, that was completed by all Japan-based military service members in Feb. 2005, followed by a Retail Price Survey done by the locality coordinator in April," said 1st Lt. Capri Gunn, 374th Airlift Wing financial service officer. "All surveys were collected and forwarded to PDTATAC for analysis and final results."

The Living Pattern Survey shows which local stores service members typically shop at and the percentage they buy from the commissary and exchange. PDTATAC then uses the information to conduct a market basket survey each year to get the prices on 120 goods and then compare those prices to the equivalent goods and services at the same point in time in the U.S.

In a scenario given by the committee, each point equals roughly \$25, although the scenario is based on an Air Force E-6 with three dependents and 10 years of service. The com-

mittee points out in the scenario the actual dollar amounts each person will lose will vary from person to person based on pay grade, years of service, and accompanying number of dependents.

"Unfortunately, we don't do the COLA computation here, members can go through the PDTATAC Web site," said Lieutenant Gunn. "A member can do their own queries and find out how much this will affect them."

The lieutenant said currently Yokota is listed as being 26% more expensive than the states and the reduction of four points will put Yokota at 22% more expensive.

"The main factor is the amount of shopping done in on-base facilities," said the lieutenant. "In general, the higher the proportion of on-base shopping, the lower the COLA index."

For more information, go to <https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/allowcol.html>.

AD

Employing Your PPE – The Key to Excellence

By Col. Kevin Kilb
374th Operations Group

When we hear the acronym “PPE,” many of us in the military know that it means Personal Protective Equipment.

In this article, however, I offer a different meaning for PPE—Professionalism, Precision and Enthusiasm.

As we continue to hone our combat readiness and support the Air Expeditionary Force, employing this kind of “PPE” has never been more important.

We must all recognize that we are professional Airmen, and make the daily commitment that it requires; starting with understanding that as Airmen in today’s Air Force, we may be “off shift,” but we are never “off duty.”

That is especially important when you are forward based, living in another country like we are here in Japan.

A professional applies strict attention to detail to all matters, from how they wear their uniform to how they perform their functional duties. Professionalism is essential to excellence.

A professional performs their duties with

precision; a precision resulting from focused, deliberate and fundamentally correct training.

Our U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds are a great example of professional Airmen executing their duties with precision, but they will be the first to tell you that practice doesn’t make perfect – it makes permanent.

Focused, deliberate and fundamentally correct training makes perfect, which allows the professional Airman to execute their duties with precision.

Enthusiasm is the “touchy feely” piece of my equation, and I believe critical to individual and organizational excellence because it is a force multiplier.

A professional Airman executing their duties with precision and enthusiasm motivates all around them to be better—it’s human nature.

I saw it repeatedly last week in the middle of the night during our Operational Readiness Exercise.

From the enthusiastic professionals precisely orchestrating the cargo yard and mo-

bility processing lines at building 400, to the maintainers generating aircraft, to the team of planners, military intelligence, life support and aircrew moving

their missions on time or early, all were doing it with professionalism, precision and enthusiasm.

OREs and Operational Readiness Inspections help us focus training and deliberately stress our environment so that we stay combat ready.

From what I witnessed last week, Yokota Air Base is full

of professional Airmen executing their duties with precision and enthusiasm.

In short, you are employing your “PPE,” which tells me we are accelerating down the path to true excellence. Keep after it—like your personal protective equipment; Professionalism, Precision and Enthusiasm are a daily commitment.

“A professional Airman executing their duties with precision and enthusiasm motivates all around them to be better – it’s human nature.”

Col. Kevin Kilb
374th Operations Group
commander

Hispanic Americans make the sacrifice, recognized

By Capt. Carlos Diaz
18th Wing Public Affairs

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan (AFPN) — Many of us have made the trip from other countries where Spanish is the native language.

Many of us share African, Spanish or Native American roots. All of us are committed to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

We are Hispanic Americans serving in the military.

From the Civil War to the war on terrorism, people from places like Mexico, Spain, the Caribbean and South America have fought bravely to defend our country against those who hate our way of life and the United States of America.

Many of our parents, and even some of us, have made the sacrifice of leaving the places we grew up to adopt and cherish a new culture with a new language that values the freedom of all men

and women.

This country has given us the opportunity to provide better lives for our families and to share our culture and make a contribution to America’s future.

Among those who have gone above and beyond in the defense of our country, are 39 Hispanic-American Medal of Honor recipients.

Names like Army Master Sgt. Roy Benavidez, who despite his severe wounds saved the lives of at least eight men while serving in Vietnam.

Marine Pfc. Fernando Luis-Garcia did not hesitate to jump on top of and cover with his body an enemy grenade to protect his fellow Marines while serving in Korea.

And Army Cpl. Benito Martínez who manned his listening post despite imminent danger while serving in Satae-Ri, Korea.

These servicemembers exemplify the sacrifices of Hispanic Americans fighting in the U.S. military.

Never in my lifetime would I have imagined that after leaving Puerto Rico, I was going to be in the forefront of the war on terrorism and be able to provide comfort to those who lost everything they had after the 2004

tsunami in the Pacific.

Now that I think about it, I probably thought about serving my country. I remember the stories of many veterans who would sit and chat with my

grandfather about their experiences during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, while he waited for his medical appointment at a veterans hospital.

Like my story, there are another 200,000 stories of sacrifice and courage like the ones I heard at that hospital a long time ago.

Those stories are being written in Spanish and English, they sound like salsa merengue and mariachis; they taste like pozole, plantains and enchiladas; they all feel and smell like freedom.

Thousands of Hispanic Americans have given their lives to defend our way of life and have paved the way for me and other Hispanic-American servicemembers and civilians who have followed their example.

To the ones who went before us and opened doors to people like me, and to the country that has accepted our cultures and given us our way of life — Gracias!

(Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 is National Hispanic Heritage Month)



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How to reach us

Editorial content is prepared by the 374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 315, Yokota Air Base, Japan. Phone: 225-8833 Fax: 225-4867 Mail to: 374 AW/PA, Unit 5078, APO AP 96326-5078 or send to: fuji.flyer@yokota.af.mil

Deadlines

The deadline for articles, briefs and classifieds is Wednesday the week before publication. For holidays, the deadline is one day earlier.

Editorial staff

Col. Scott Goodwin
374th Airlift Wing commander

Maj. David Westover
Chief, Public Affairs

Capt. Warren Comer
Deputy Chief, Public Affairs

Capt. Ben Alumbaugh
Chief, Plans and Operations

Master Sgt. Dominique Brown
Superintendent, Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Ruth Curfman
Editor

Eight Co., Ltd.
Publisher

DUI Prevention

Oct. 4 – Oct. 10	1
Total DUIs in October	1
Total in 2006	13

Punishment

.049 or less =	car parked for 12 hrs.
.05-.079 =	6 months walking
.081-.149 =	1 year walking
0.15 or greater =	2 years walking

Misconduct Prevention

Oct. 4 – Oct. 10	0
Total incidents in October	0
Total in 2006	65

Punishment

Family members or civilians can lose AAFES, MWR or Commissary privileges; receive fines or restitution, community service hours, evaluation or counseling, curfew, suspension or loss of driving privileges and debarment from base through the Yokota Conduct Adjudication Program.

Action Line

E-mail: action.lines-1@yokota.af.mil

The Action Line is your direct line to the 374th Airlift Wing commander. Use it if you have questions or comments about Yokota, which couldn’t be resolved by your chain of command first. When you send an e-mail, please include your name and phone number so you can be reached if more information is needed.

Fire Prevention Week



Above left, Madeline and Madden Partin get rocked in the the earthquake simulator at the Fire Prevention Week Kick-Off display Saturday in front of the Yokota Community Center. Above center, a toddler pounces out of the bounce house at the display. Above right, Sarah Hines practices escaping from a smoke filled building and jumps out of the Yokota Air Base Fire Department's smoke house. Bottom right, Paul and Sidney Whitfield get a ladder ride on a Tokyo Fire Department fire truck.

photos by Master Sgt. Dominique Brown



Above, Sparky the Fire Dog and Q-ta, the mascot for the Tokyo Fire Department, partner up to entertain children at the Fire Prevention Week display here Saturday.



AD

Off base

Kawagoe Matsuri Festival:

This festival, Saturday and Sunday, has been held for more than 350 years. In the old traditional street in Kawagoe, 15 festival floats will be featured in a parade and various celebrations throughout the weekend.

Nippon Cinema Classics:

The 19th Tokyo International Film Festival presents The Forty-Seven Loyal Samurai live performance with the special event "Movie, Makino's family and legendary stars in Japanese films." This event is Oct. 22, starting at 11 a.m. at the Theatre Cocoon in Shibuya. Cost is 1,000 yen. For more information, call 03-5777-8600 or send an e-mail to info@eidanren.com.

Flower exhibition:

Asakusa Kikuka-ten is a mum exhibition running Sunday through Nov. 15. This event features more than 1,000 chrysanthemum inside the Asakusa Temple.

On base

Movies

Today – *Zoom*, PG, 2 p.m.
Step Up, PG-13, 7 p.m.; *The Marine*, PG-13, 10 p.m.

Saturday – *Barnyard*, PG, 2 p.m.; *The Marine*, PG-13, 7 p.m.; *The Descent*, R, 10 p.m.

Sunday – *Step Up*, PG-13, 2 p.m.; *The Marine*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

Monday – *The Marine*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

Tuesday – *Snakes On a Plane*, R, 7 p.m.

Wednesday – *The Marine*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

Thursday – *The Descent*, R, 7 p.m.

All movies and showtimes are subject to change without notice. Call 225-8708.

Homeschool group

The Yokota Homeschool Group* hosts monthly meetings, field trips and other events during the school year. For more information, send an e-mail to yokotahomeschoolers@hotmail.com.

Project Graduation*

Yokota High School's 2007 graduation class' next community meeting is Tuesday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the base library. For more information, call 227-4769 or 227-2805.

225-RIDE

Volunteers are needed to answer calls and provide rides for military members. If interested, e-mail 225-RIDE@yokota.af.mil.

Scholarship fund

The Sons of Hawaii Club* is sponsoring a scholarship fund for eligible high school students and spouses of active-duty and civilian members. Applicable forms and essays must be turned in by March 16. For more information, send an e-mail to sohyokota@yahoo.com.

Airmen's Attic

The Airmen's Attic is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. This service is only available to E-5 and below. For more information or to volunteer, call Master Sgt. Jon Borseth at 225-5908.

Town Hall meeting

There is a Project Graduation* meeting for community leaders and parents and guardians of Yokota High School seniors Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Officers' Club Ballroom. For more information, call 227-4769.

Volunteers needed

The Yokota Officer Spouses Club* is looking for volunteers to assist vendors, donate baked goods and provide Japanese and Korean language assistance during their Asian Bazaar Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 227-5009 or e-mail yoscbazaarvolunteer@yahoo.com.

Pumpkin Patch

The Yokota Air Base Girl Scouts* and commissary will host their 2006 Pumpkin Patch Oct. 21 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in front of the Yokota Community Center. This event includes face painting,

baked goods and a pumpkin carving contest. For more information, call 225-7349.

Girl Scouts

The Yokota Girl Scouts* are looking for new members in grades Kindergarten through 12th. For more information or to join the local scout troop, e-mail yokotagirlscouts@yahoo.com.

Route 56*

This group consists of junior non-commissioned officers. The meetings are the third Wednesday of every month at 11:30 a.m. at the Enlisted Club. Discussions include morale and welfare of enlisted members on base. For more information, call 225-8064.

Chapel schedule

Traditional (West) Chapel

Catholic Mass, Sundays at 9:15 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Protestant traditional service, Sundays at 11 a.m.

Korean service, Sundays at 1 p.m.

Seventh Day Adventists, first and third Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Contemporary (East) Chapel

Protestant: Gospel service, Sundays at 11 a.m.; Contemporary service Sundays at 5 p.m.

Single's ministry

Young adults and singles of the chapel are welcome.

Tuesdays – Free dinner, Bible discussion and fellowship starts at 5:30 p.m.

Thursdays – Intercessory prayer at 6 p.m. and fellowship and snacks at 7 p.m.

Fridays – "Extreme Coffee Bar" with snacks, drinks and games from 7 p.m. to midnight.

Saturdays – Morning sports activities at the main gym, brunch at 1 p.m. and band practice from 3 to 5 p.m.

For more information, call 225-7009.

Education survey

The Base Training and Education Services flight is conducting a "needs assessment" survey to ensure the academic programs on base are meeting the needs of personnel

Sandbox Warrior



of the Week



Staff Sgt. Lashawndra Bills

Staff Sgt. Lashawndra Bills, 374th Services Squadron, is this week's Samurai Warrior of the Week for exhibiting the qualities of courage, sympathy toward all people, absolute loyalty to one's superior and a duty to defend the honor of one's name and guild.

As a noncommissioned officer, deployed to the 447th Air Expeditionary Group protocol office, she has successfully transferred more than 1,000 dignitaries monthly on Iraq's busiest distinguished visitor ramp. Her professional support to more than 60 visits weekly, being instrumental in parking plans for multiple airframes and her ability to work with 25 nationalities has resulted in the execution of a smooth flow for every visit.

on base. Air Force and civilian personnel can access the survey from the Air Force Portal's Air Force Virtual Education Center site. For more information, call 225-7337.

Self-Help store

The base Self-Help store is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. People can get supplies for base housing units, self help projects or sign out tools and equipment. Call 225-7086.

Spouse employment

If you are a military spouse and would like assistance searching for a job, stop by the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Classes are available. For more information, e-mail tracie.hathorn@yokota.af.mil.

Fall Festival

The Yokota East Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization* will have their annual Fall Festival Oct. 28 from noon to 3p.m. at the school. For more in-

formation or to volunteer, call 225-5504 or 227-4026.

Screening fair

The 13th Annual Developmental Screening Fair is Oct. 24 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Educational, Developmental and Intervention Services Clinic. The screening includes the areas of motor skills, social skills, communication, hearing, vision and dental checks. For more information or to make an appointment, call 225-9993.

Voting information

People can find out about candidates running for office and issues, in their county of residence, from a non-partisan Web site at www.vote-smart.org/index.htm.

PO disclaimer

An asterisk (*) denotes a private organization. Private organizations are not a part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and have no governmental status.

AD

“Quotes” & Things

“There are three ages: youth, adult, and ‘Hey, you’re looking good.’”

**Leroy Walker,
1976 U.S. Olympic
track coach**

Golf tournament: The Yokota High School Project Graduation committee needs volunteers for their golf tournament, Oct. 31 at Tama Hills. If interested, call 227-4769 or 227-9637 by Saturday.

Baseball club: Yokota Hawks Baseball Club is looking for adult baseball players for the winter league season. There will be two games per month running through March. For more information or to join, call 080-5005-7357.

Natatorium hours: The Natatorium has temporarily changed their hours. The new hours are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 5 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, noon to 6 p.m. For more information, call 225-6133.

Yoga class: Yoga classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Taiyo Recreation Center. Cost is \$30. Call 225-6955.

Boxing class: Boxing classes are available for adults and youth ages 14 to 17. Cost is \$50 for youth and \$60 for adults per month. For more information call 225-6955.

Breast Cancer Awareness recognized this month



photo by Master Sgt. Dominique Brown

By Master Sgt. Dominique Brown
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

October has been recognized as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month since 1985.

According to the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month Web site, mammography rates have more than doubled for women age 50 and older to detect breast cancer, and breast cancer deaths have declined.

Yokota Air Base has several events scheduled this month to recognize breast cancer awareness to include a Black and Pink Ball at the Enlisted Club Oct. 20 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; mammograms conducted in the radiology clinic Saturday and Oct. 21, from 8 to 9 a.m., a 5K run/walk around the North overrun Oct. 21, from 8 to 10 a.m. and a “Sunday Best” Gala with a silent auction for 30 different items Oct. 28, from 7:30 p.m. to midnight. For information on these events call 227-8820.

Tech. Sgt. Thaddeus Brannon, left, and Staff Sgt. Wences Savaiki, right, 374th Medical Group, diagnostic imaging, provide information on breast cancer awareness to a passerby at the Yokota Community Center Saturday. Both volunteered to work at the booth in support of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

National Physical Therapy Month

Capt. Joseph Williams, 374th Medical Operations Squadron, physical medicine element chief, examines a knee injury for Master Sgt. Torrance McGee, facility control officer and a part-time trainer for individuals going out for the Air Force Track and Field Team. The National Physical Therapy Month was established in 1926 and is recognized by the military. This year the American Physical Therapy Association's Web site's theme focuses on proper bike fit. Whether it is for recreation or competition, proper bike fit minimizes discomfort and helps to prevent pain and injury. For more information, go to the Web site at www.upta.org.



photo by Staff Sgt. Ruth Curfman

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